



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Dawn Danielson (619) 767-2605
Pager (858) 493-9529

COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTERS REDUCE ADOPTION FEES FOR CATS & KITTENS

Department's "It's Better with a Buddy" Program Benefits Both Families and Felines

With the onset of summer, high volumes of kittens and cats are entering County's three animal shelters, said Mikel Haas, Director of the Department of Animal Services, and the department is offering two programs to encourage those contemplating adoption of a cat or kitten.

Effective immediately, regular adoption fees (\$50-\$57) will be cut in half for adult cats – six months or older – and, under the "It's Better with a Buddy" program, those seeking to adopt a kitten will be encouraged to adopt a second one for half the regular adoption fee.

When it comes to kittens, two is really better than one, said Haas. "Having a 'buddy' around reduces behavior problems due to boredom when you or your family can't be there, allows them to play whenever they want and may even eliminate a family squabble or two over 'whose kitten is it'", said Haas.

With so many kittens around during summer and fall, however, interest in adoptions of adult cats falls off, said Haas, and "we don't want their virtues as great pets to be forgotten."

"Mature cats are generally considered less destructive, easier to train and care for, more affectionate, better companions, more comfortable when left alone, and an ideal choice for a single pet household," said Haas.

For those interested in adding a feline pet to their family, whether it is a set of kittens or a mature cat, this is a great time to visit a County animal shelter and take advantage of the reduced adoption fees, said Haas. The reduced fees will be in effect throughout the summer, said Haas.

All cats and kittens are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, microchipped for owner identification and leukemia tested before going home with their new family.

County animal shelters are located in Mission Valley (off Morena Blvd.), Carlsbad and Bonita. For directions or information, call 619.236.4250 or visit www.sddac.com.

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